

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for treating a vascular condition, comprising:

5 a catheter, the catheter including an inflatable balloon;

a stent operably coupled to the balloon; and

a therapeutic agent disposed on at least a portion of the balloon,

wherein the therapeutic agent is delivered to a wall of a vessel at a proximal and a distal end of the stent when the balloon is inflated within the vessel.

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2. The system of claim 1 wherein the therapeutic agent inhibits restenosis at the ends of the stent.

3. The system of claim 1 wherein the therapeutic agent includes at

15 least one agent selected from a group consisting of an antiproliferative agent, an antineoplastic agent, an antibiotic agent, and an anti-inflammatory agent.

4. The system of claim 1 wherein the therapeutic agent is lipophilic.

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5. The system of claim 1 wherein the therapeutic agent is further disposed on at least a portion of the stent.

6. The system of claim 5 wherein the therapeutic agent is disposed on at least a distal portion of the stent and a proximal portion of the stent.

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7. The system of claim 1 further comprising:

a protective coating disposed on at least a portion of at least one of the balloon, the stent, and the therapeutic agent.

8. The system of claim 5 further comprising:
a protective coating disposed on at least a portion of at least one of
the balloon, the stent, and the therapeutic agent.

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9. A method of manufacturing a system for treating a vascular
condition, comprising:
providing a catheter, the catheter including an inflatable balloon;
coupling a stent to the balloon; and
10 applying a therapeutic agent to at least a portion of the balloon,
wherein the therapeutic agent is delivered to a wall of a vessel at a proximal and
a distal end of the stent when the balloon is inflated within the vessel.

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10. The method of claim 9 wherein the therapeutic agent inhibits
15 restenosis at the ends of the stent.

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11. The method of claim 9 wherein applying a therapeutic agent
comprises applying the therapeutic agent to at least a portion of the balloon prior
to coupling the stent to the balloon.

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12. The method of claim 9 wherein coupling a stent to the balloon
comprises coupling the stent such that a proximal portion of the balloon extends
beyond a proximal end of the stent and a distal portion of the balloon extends
beyond a distal end of the stent.

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13. The method of claim 9 wherein applying a therapeutic agent
comprises applying the therapeutic agent to at least the proximal and distal
portions of the balloon after coupling the stent to the balloon.

14. The method of claim 9 further comprising:

applying the therapeutic agent to at least a portion of the stent.

5 15. The method of claim 14 wherein applying a therapeutic agent to at least a portion of the stent comprises applying the therapeutic agent prior to coupling the stent to the balloon.

10 16. The method of claim 14 wherein applying a therapeutic agent to at least a portion of the stent comprises applying the therapeutic agent after coupling the stent to the balloon.

15 17. The method of claim 14 wherein applying the therapeutic agent to at least a portion of the stent comprises applying the therapeutic agent to at least a proximal portion of the stent and a distal portion of the stent.

20 18. The method of claim 9 further comprising:
applying a protective coating over at least a portion of at least one of the balloon and the stent prior to applying the therapeutic agent.

19. The method of claim 9 further comprising:
applying a protective coating over at least a portion of at least one of the balloon, the stent, and the therapeutic agent.

25 20. The method of claim 14 further comprising:
applying a protective coating over at least a portion of at least one of the balloon, the stent, and the therapeutic agent.

21. The method of claim 9 further comprising:
minimizing the balloon profile prior to coupling the stent to the
balloon.

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22. A method of inhibiting restenosis at the ends of a stent used to treat
a vascular condition, comprising:

10 identifying a site for treatment;
introducing a stent into a vessel containing the site identified for
treatment, the stent coupled to a catheter, the catheter including an inflatable
balloon, a therapeutic agent disposed on at least a portion of the balloon;
guiding the stent to a position adjacent the site identified for
treatment;

15 expanding the balloon, wherein expanding the balloon includes
delivering the stent and contacting a wall of the vessel with the balloon such that
the therapeutic agent disposed on the balloon is delivered to the wall of the
vessel at a proximal and a distal end of the stent;

deflating the balloon; and
withdrawing the catheter from the vessel.

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23. The method of claim 22 wherein the therapeutic agent inhibits
restenosis at the ends of the stent.

25 24. The system of claim 22 wherein the therapeutic agent includes at
least one agent selected from a group consisting of an antiproliferative agent, an
antineoplastic agent, an antibiotic agent, and an anti-inflammatory agent.

30 25. The system of claim 22 wherein the therapeutic agent is lipophilic.